

Message Text

SECRET

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S E C R E T TEHRAN 3869

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SULLIVAN

EO 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: TECH, IR, US
SUBJ: BILATERAL COOPERATION ON PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR
ENERGY

1. YOU WILL RECALL THAT WHEN I SAW YOU IN WASHINGTON TWO MONTHS AGO, I EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE BUREAUCRACY WAS DELAYING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "MOST FAVORED NATION" TREATMENT WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAD OFFERED THE SHAH IN THE FIELD OF BILATERAL COOPERATION ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. DUE TO YOUR INTERCESSION, A FORMULA WAS WORKED OUT AND SENT TO THE WHITE HOUSE IN LATE MARCH FOR THE PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL.
2. ONE MONTH LATER AND DESPITE A PERSONAL MESSAGE WHICH I SENT TO ZBIG, WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE AUTHORIZATION TO PROPOSE THIS FORMULA TO THE IRANIANS. THE NET RESULT IS THAT OUR NEGOTIATION OF THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT HAS BEEN STALLED FOR NEARLY THREE MONTHS. THE IRANIANS ARE BECOMING QUITE SUSPICIOUS OF OUR MOTIVES. THE SHAH HAS RECENTLY REMINDED ME THAT HE IS WAITING FOR A WASHINGTON MOVE.

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3. THE GRAPEVINE INFORMATION WHICH I GET IS THAT SOME OF THE EARLIER OPPONENTS OF THE PRESIDENT'S "MOST FAVORED NATION" UNDERTAKING HAVE SUCCEEDED IN DELAYING THE PAPERS FROM REACHING THE PRESIDENT'S DESK. I THEREFORE REGRET THAT I FEEL I HAVE TO ASK YOU ONCE AGAIN TO INTERCEDE PERSONALLY TO GET ME THE AUTHORIZATION WE NEED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE IRANIANS.

SULLIVAN

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